

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 034172 TOSEC 020026  
ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 CCO-00 SS-15 ISO-00 /017 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:JMORDWAY

APPROVED BY S/PRS: FZBROWN

S/S - MR. SEBASTIAN

-----152022Z 052743 /44

P 151950Z FEB 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 034172 TOSEC 020026

FOR CARTER FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.) SOPN

SUBJECT:TRAVELING PRESS REPORTAGE, TUES MORNING, FEB 15

NO. 2

NEWSPAPERS

GWERTZMAN, NYT, SENT SEPTTEL (NO. 1). OTHERS NOT AVAILABLE  
OR NOT SENT.

WIRES

UPI

ANDERSON FROM WASHINGTON

ANDERSON'S CURTAIN RAISER LEAD WITH VANCE DEPARTURE QUO-  
TATION, SAYING PRES CARTER BELIEVES "THE OPPORTUNITY MAY NOW  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 034172 TOSEC 020026

EXIST" TO MAKE PROGRESS TOWARD LASTING PEACE.

PIECE MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

--RETIRED ISRAELI GENERAL MATTI PELED SAID IN WASHINGTON  
THAT "HIS UNOFFICIAL TALKS WITH THE PLO INDICATE 'CONVINCING

SIGNALS' THE PLO IS READY TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL."

--QUOTED FROM THE ARAB AND ISRAELI VANCE INTERVIEWS THAT THE US PLANS AN ACTIVE ROLE BUT NO SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY 'AT THIS TIME.'

ANDERSON CONTINUED AS FOLLOWS:

"STATE DEPT OFFICIALS TRAVELING WITH VANCE DESCRIBE THE TRIP AS 'THE FIRST STEP IN OUR INVOLVEMENT IN GETTING THE NEGOTIATIONS STARTED' FOR AN OVERALL MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT.

THE OFFICIALS SAID VANCE WILL HOLD 'DETAILED, INTENSE' DISCUSSIONS WITH MIDDLE EAST LEADERS ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES INCLUDING:

--PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATION AT A GENEVA CONFERENCE.

--ISRAEL'S OIL EXPLORATIONS IN THE GULF OF SUEZ, EXPLORATION THE STATE DEPT CALLED 'NOT HELPFUL IN THE SEARCH FOR A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION.'

-- THE DIPLOMATIC CLIMATE. OFFICIALS SAID VANCE WILL ASK ALL MIDDLE EAST LEADERS TO BE MODERATE IN WORD AND ACTION DURING THIS PERIOD, WHICH HE HAS DESCRIBED AS 'CRITICAL.'"

VANCE'S TRIP IS TO BE FOLLOWED BY A SERIES OF TRIPS TO WASHINGTON BY MIDEAST LEADERS.

VANCE SAID HE CARRIES NO SPECIFIC PROPOSALS, BUT OFFICIALS SAID HE WILL HAVE A DETAILED SERIES OF QUESTIONS TO PUT TO UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 034172 TOSEC 020026

ALL THE LEADERS.

BASED UPON LEADERS' ANSWERS, US WILL PUT TOGETHER ITS PROPOSALS TO HELP GET A GENEVA MIDEAST CONFERENCE OFF DEAD CENTER.

AP

BARRY SCHWEID FROM LAJES

(FULL TEXT FROM CITY WIRE): SECSTATE VANCE IS HEADED FOR THE MIDDLE EAST TO SEEK CONCESSIONS ON THE PALESTINIAN ISSUE IN THE HOPE OF RESUMING THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

VANCE'S PLANE STOPPED AT THIS US-MANNED PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE BASE TO REFUEL EARLY TODAY EN ROUTE TO ISRAEL, THE FIRST STOP ON HIS TOUR.

THE ONE-WEEK TRIP ALSO WILL TAKE VANCE TO EGYPT, LEBANON BRIEFLY, JORDAN, SAUDIA ARABIA AND SYRIA.

AS HE LEFT WASHINGTON LATE MONDAY, VANCE SAID HE DID NOT UNDERESTIMATE THE DIFFICULTY OF TRYING TO BRIDGE 30 YEARS OF HOSTILITY BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ITS ARAB NEIGHBORS.

BUT, HE SAID, THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS DETERMINED TO ACHIEVE "A JUST AND LASTING PEACE" IN THE REGION.

WHILE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, VANCE HOPES TO PROMOTE ARMS-REDUCTION AS WELL AS TO ENCOURAGE A RETURN TO PEACE TALKS IN GENEVA.

VANCE INTENDS TO FIND OUT THE DEPTH OF THE ARABS' COMMITMENT TO CREATING A PALESTINIAN STATE AND WHETHER THEY THINK THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANZIATION IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 034172 TOSEC 020026

ISRAEL'S EXISTENCE.

HE HAS NO MEETINGS PALNNED DURING THE TRIP WITH PALESTINIAN REPRESENTATIVES, US OFFICIALS SAID.

RADIO/TV

NBC

VALERIANI ON "TODAY", FROM ANDREWS:

VALERIANI: SECRETARY VANCE LEFT FOR THE MIDDLE EAST LESS THAN A MONTH AFTER TAKING OFFICE TO UNDERSCORE THIS COUNTRY'S DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE PLAYING A VIGOROUS ROLE IN TRYING TO SETTLE THE ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT. HIS AIDES SAID VANCE IS GOING PRIMARILY TO LISTEN, TO FIND OUT WHAT ARAB AND ISRAELI LEADERS THINK ABOUT HOW TO RECONVENE THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE MIDDLE EAST, AND WHEN.

VANCE CAME TO THE AIRPORT DIRECTLY FROM A WHITE HOUSE DINNER FOR THE PRESIDENT OF MEXICO. BEFORE LEAVING, HE HAD THIS TO SAY.

VANCE: IT'S NOW BEEN THIRTY YEARS SINCE THE SEARCH FOR PEACE BEGAN. I DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH LAY BEFORE US. BUT THE TASK IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE, AND WE ARE DETERMINED TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO HELP ACHIEVE THIS AIM.

VALERIANI: THE MAIN OBSTACLE TO RECONVENING THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IS THE PROBLEM OF HOW TO DEAL WITH THE PALES-

TINIANS. SO, THE FOCUS OF VANCE'S MISSION WILL BE THE SEARCH FOR A FORMULA FOR INCLUDING THE PALESTINIANS THAT IS ACCEPTABLE TO EVERYBODY.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 034172 TOSEC 020026

CBS

BERNARD KALB, CBS MORNING NEWS

KALB: THERE'S A LOT OF WHAT YOU MIGHT CALL SAMENESS HERE AT ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE. THE PLANE, THE SAME TYPE; TAKEOFF, ABOUT THE SAME TIME, AN HOUR OR SO BEFORE MIDNIGHT; DESTINATION, THE SAME; AND THE PROBLEM AT THE END OF THE DESTINATION THE SAME: HOW TO DEFUSE THE MIDDLE EAST.

WHAT'S DIFFERENT, THOUGH, IS THE SECRETARY OF STATE -- CYRUS VANCE INSTEAD OF HENRY KISSINGER, ALTHOUGH EVERYONE RECOGNIZES THAT THE LEGACY OF KISSINGER WILL ALSO BE MAKING THIS JOURNEY TO THE MIDDLE EAST.

VANCE: I UNDERTAKE THIS VISIT IN A SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN OUR COUNTRY AND EACH OF THE COUNTRIES WHICH I AM TO VISIT. IT'S NOW BEEN THIRTY YEARS SINCE THE SEARCH FOR PEACE BEGAN. I DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH LAY BEFORE US. BUT THE TASK IS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE, AND WE ARE DETERMINED TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO HELP ACHIEVE THIS END.

KALB: FIRST STOP, ISRAEL, THEN, EGYPT, LEBANON, JORDAN, SAUDI ARABIA AND SYRIA BEFORE BACK TO ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE NEXT MONDAY NIGHT.

ABC

BARRIE DUNSMORE ON "GOOD MORNING, AMERICA"

CYRUS VANCE LEAVES FOR THE MIDEAST AMID PROPITIOUS CONDITIONS. ON LEAVING OFFICE, HENRY KISSINGER HAD SAID THAT THE OBJECTIVE CONDITIONS FOR A BREAKTHROUGH HAD NEVER BEEN BETTER AT ANY TIME SINCE THE CREATION OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL. MOST IMPORTANT OF THOSE CONDITIONS WAS THE END OF  
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 034172 TOSEC 020026

THE LEBANESE CIVIL WAR IN WHICH THE PLO WAS DEFEATED MILI-

TARILY AND CRITICALLY WEAKENED POLITICALLY.

ONE OF VANCE'S MAIN OBJECTIVES WILL BE TO SEE IF, INDEED, THE PLO HAS MODERATED ITS STANCE. IF, AS HAS BEEN REPORTED IT IS PREPARED TO ACCEPT THE EXISTENCE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL, THIS WOULD REPRESENT A MAJOR BREAKTHROUGH. ANY SIGNIFICANT MODERATION WOULD, OF COURSE, FACILITATE A NEW MEETING IN GENEVA, WHICH IS CONSIDERED TO BE THE NEXT LIKEL

STEP IN THE PEACE PROCESS. EXCEPT FOR THE PLO, ISRAEL IS AN ESTABLISHED FACT. AND IT'S THE ACCEPTANCE OF ISRAEL, HOWEVER GRUDGINGLY, BY MOST ARAB STATES, THAT REPRESENTS THE REAL PROGRESS IN THE MIDDLE EAST DURING THE KISSINGER YEARS.

THAT'S A BASE ON WHICH VANCE CAN BUILD.

HARTMAN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE034172  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JMORDWAY  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770054-0058  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770239/aaaabisj.tel  
**Line Count:** 242  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ce284bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN PRS  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3314031  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TRAVELING PRESS REPORTAGE, TUES MORNING, FEB 15 NO. 2 NEWSPAPERS  
**TAGS:** OVIP, SOPN, US, XF, (VANCE, CYRUS R)  
**To:** SECRETARY  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ce284bc6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009